



Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

We have reached the end of our second week of lockdown! It is lovely to see across our school community, families and staff finding their own ways to keep our children learning safely. Again we find ourselves in a time of uncertainty, however we hope as a school we continue to offer a consistent source of support to you all.

Distance Learning

Teachers met this week to update our distance learning due to the extended closure. We have created bespoke content including live and pre recorded sessions. We hope these offer interactive support, as well as allowing children to access the content at their own pace and at times that suit your family situation. We are pleased to say our engagement has been brilliant. Thank you for your support at home and to our staff in school.

Our priorities moving forward are:

- maintain contact to check on the well-being of our learners
- ensure consistency across the school
- monitor and maintain manageability for our learners and teachers

Previously, we have used distance learning to revise and consolidate learning. However, as we are much earlier in our academic year and with the extended closure, we are now moving forward with our curriculum. Our priorities are still Reading, Writing and Maths. These sessions follow a sequence through the week so we would advise prioritising these each day.

Feedback

Our teachers are working each day offering feedback on learning, preparing sessions and resources and attending meetings and staff training. Teachers are available for live feedback between 9am-2pm on Monday to Thursday and on 9am-1pm Friday (Reception-Year 6) and between 9am-11pm on Monday to Friday (Nursery). This means they will be looking through the learning that is submitted and offering feedback.

Feedback is a comment to move the learning forward or check understanding. This will not be offered for all learning and teachers will state when setting work whether there is an expectation for learning to be handed in and if feedback will be provided. Teachers will look through and feedback on learning submitted after 2pm (R-Y6) and 11am (N) by the end of the next feedback window.

We are aware we have many parents accessing distance learning in different ways due to work, child care and managing different age groups learning together. We echo the message of the last lockdown "do what you can" and "we are here to help". If you need to submit learning later, please contact the teacher so they can acknowledge this. You may also agree with your child's class teacher a timescale for handing in learning that would suit your situation.

Google meets

Each class has 3 Google meets a week; these are live lessons run by the class teacher. During this session a register is taken. We need to ensure regular contact with our learners and if a child has not attended this will be followed up with a phone call to check in. If you are unable to attend a Google meet please contact the class teacher prior to the meeting so they can update the register.

Free School Meals

Caterlink has been working very hard on providing Free School Meals. On Monday, we will be providing hampers to parents who need them. The hampers will have ample provision for two weeks and will also include helpful advice on meal preparation. The Government has this week updated their guidance for FSM provision. We are continuing with hampers for the next two weeks as the food has been ordered. We will continue to review the provision and provide what is best for our children and our school.

Critical Workers

Our key worker provision is busy and we are pleased to be able to support our key workers. Please only book your children into the provision at school if there is no one at home.

COVID Data

All the data for Hertfordshire cases can be found via the following link:

<https://coronavirus.data.gov.uk/cases>

Click on United Kingdom and enter the local authority you want data on regarding cases.

Hertfordshire specific information can also be found at:

https://hcc-phei.shinyapps.io/covid19_public_dashboard/

Mental Health

The link below is a great website for activities to support children with their wellbeing. There are planners, mindful activities, relaxation tips and so much more.

<https://www.partnershipforchildren.org.uk/what-we-do/childrens-wellbeing-activities-for-teaching-staff-and-families.html>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/joinin/seven-techniques-for-helping-kids-keep-calm>

Other ideas for home...

Plan a Dinner - let children take over the planning of a family meal- they can decide the dinner one night and help prepare it. They could also set the table, help clean away and even create a menu for the meal. It could become a family 'Come Dine with Me'



Shadow Drawings - trace the shadows of toys and objects to create your own shadow scene!

If you have any other top tips to share with parents, please email them through for us to share!

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Lyon and the Leavesden Team